

SPACE RACE HISTORY

Chronological Timeline Chart: 1957 - 1975

OCTOBER 4, 1957

Sputnik 1

The USSR successfully launches the world's first artificial satellite into Earth's orbit.

APRIL 12, 1961

First Human in Space

Yuri Gagarin (USSR) orbits the Earth aboard Vostok 1, lasting 108 minutes.

MAY 25, 1961

Kennedy's Moon Challenge

President John F. Kennedy announces the goal of landing a man on the Moon before the decade ends.

JUNE 16, 1963

First Woman in Space

Valentina Tereshkova (USSR) completes 48 orbits of Earth in Vostok 6.

JULY 20, 1969

Apollo 11 Moon Landing

Neil Armstrong and Buzz Aldrin (USA) become the first humans to walk on the lunar surface.

JULY 17, 1975

Apollo-Soyuz Mission

The first joint US-Soviet mission marks the symbolic end of the Space Race with an orbital handshake.